



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service**



Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
10 W 15th Street, Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626

April 2011 Red Meat Production

For immediate release: May 20, 2011

For more information contact: Michael Johnson or Steve Anderson at 1-800-835-2612

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.4 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during April 2011, down 12 percent from April 2010. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,800 head, down 200 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 1,193 pounds, increased 8 pounds from last year.

During April there were 1,100 hogs slaughtered, up 100 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 250 pounds, increased 4 pounds from last year. April sheep slaughter totaled 200 head, unchanged from April 2010. The average live weight decreased 8 pounds to 92 pounds from last year.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.87 billion pounds in April, down 4 percent from the 4.01 billion pounds produced in April 2010.

Beef production, at 2.05 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 4 percent from April 2010. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,257 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.2 million pounds, 8 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,900 head, down 14 percent from April 2010. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from last year, at 296 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.79 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.63 million head, down 5 percent from April 2010. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.3 million pounds, was up 11 percent from April 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 206,700 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 2 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2011 commercial red meat production was 16.1 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 10 percent.

#end#